

STUDY BASICS

Valdez Fisheries Development Assoc. Inc. (VFDA) thermally marks the fry it releases from the Solomon Gulch Hatchery. We would like to know the stream of origin for the non-thermal marked fish taken in the hatchery cost recovery.

Our study will include collecting 20 fry from each of the 7 wild stock streams in the vicinity of the Hatchery. The following streams will be surveyed:

1. Abercrombie Creek (Port Valdez) 61 05.258N x 146 15.147W (221-50-11250)
 2. Siwash Creek (Port Valdez) 61 07.602N x 146 17.364W (221-50-11430)
 3. Lowe/Robe River System (Port Valdez) 61 05.525N x 146 14.408W (221-60-11370)
 4. Levshakoff (Jacks Bay) 61 02.309 N x 146 33.487 W (221-50-11290)
 5. Gregorieoff Creek (Jacks Bay) 61 01.496 N x 146 38.92W (221-50-11210)
 6. Stellar Creek (Sawmill Bay) 61 03.147N x 146 48.338W (221-50-11530)
 7. Indian River (Galena Bay) 60 57.184N x 146 37.976W (221-50-11170)
- See attached map for locations *8. Crooked Creek 61 07.501N 146 17.000W (221-50-11436)?*

The fry from each stream will be dissected to remove the otoliths. The otoliths will be subjected to micro chemical analysis. The analysis will yield a chemical profile for each stream. We hope to find sufficient variations between stream profiles such that when we encounter non-thermal marked otolith returning adults we can match adults with natal streams.

ADF&G currently conducts otolith recovery from the fishery – we will work with Bert Lewis and Steve Moffet to obtain adult samples. The micro chemical analysis will be conducted by Dr. Nate Bickford with the Institute of Marine Science at UAF.